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April 23, 2014

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## **Citizens sewer rate case order: OUCC statement**

The following statement regarding today's Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission (IURC) order in the Citizens Energy Group (CWA Authority) sewer rate case may be attributed to Indiana Utility Consumer Counselor David Stippler:

"We realize rate increases are never popular. However, today's order will allow the sewer utility to complete a number of major infrastructure projects that are vital to public health. The projects requested in the sewer case received a full review from the Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor (OUCC). Based on our review, our staff recognizes that the projects reflect a reasonable approach to addressing the city's combined sewer overflow problems. It is important to note that many of the projects are required under a federal consent decree, and to remember that Indianapolis is not alone in its need to address public health issues directly connected with having an antiquated wastewater collection and treatment system.

"The Commission's further actions today regarding executive compensation are consistent with last month's order in the Citizens Water rate case. These are certainly appropriate actions and will continue to be reviewed in the Commission's separate investigation (Cause No. 44462)."

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(IURC Cause No. 44305)

The Indiana Office of Utility Consumer Counselor (OUCC) represents Indiana consumer interests before state and federal bodies that regulate utilities. As a state agency, the OUCC's mission is to represent all Indiana consumers to ensure quality, reliable utility services at the most reasonable prices possible through dedicated advocacy, consumer education, and creative problem solving.

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